

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
43, Buckingham Street,
AYLESBURY, Bucks.

JULY, 1954

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Aylesbury Rural District for the year 1953, together with the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor on the sanitary circumstances, and work of the Sanitary Inspectors throughout the area.

The year has been particularly notable in its freedom from infectious disease of epidemic proportions, apart from the anticipated biennial increase in measles notifications.

No case of diphtheria was notified and only five cases of whooping cough.

There was no case of food poisoning notified.

The nine cases of infection of the enteric group were cases of dysentery from the St. John's Mental Hospital at Stone.

Three cases of anterior poliomyelitis were notified during the year, two adults and one child. They were sporadic cases and the source of infection was not traced. Two of the cases died, the child died shortly after the onset of disease before admission to hospital. The third case recovered without complications following treatment at the Isolation Hospital.

The one case of cerebro-spinal meningitis notified occurred in a child as a complication of a cerebral abscess. Complete recovery followed treatment in hospital.

With the advances in chemotherapy and antibiotics there is an increasing tendency to treat the minor infectious diseases "at home" rather than in hospital. Evidence of this is seen in the cases of scarlet fever, for out of the 32 cases notified only twelve were treated in hospital, and six of these were pupils from the Blind School at Dorton where isolation accommodation is inadequate.

Included in the Report are the particulars and findings of the No. 1 (Northants) Mass Radiography Unit, in their survey of St. John's Hospital, Halton County School and Westcott.

I wish to thank the Council and Public Health Committee for their support and assistance throughout the year, also the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and staff of the Health Department, for their help during that period.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

JOHN T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS. M.B., CH.B.,
M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a)	Area of the District	89,613 acres
(b)	Total Population (Estimated mid-1953)	31,520
(c)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953, according to Rate Book)	8,373
(d)	Rateable Value	£176,978
(e)	Sum represented by Penny Rate	£700

U N E M P L O Y E D

At 31st December 1952

At 31st December 1953

36 women
18 men
 54

47 women
29 men
 76

VITAL STATISTICS

					<u>1952</u>			<u>1953</u>		
					Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Live Births --	Legitimate	..	..	..	460	241	219	412	205	207
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	25	14	11	24	10	14
Still Births	Legitimate	..	..	..	6	2	4	12	7	5
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	-	-	-	1	1	-

					<u>1952</u>			<u>1953</u>		
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population					..	15.7		13.83		
Birth Rate (corrected)					..	17.1		15.07		
Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) Births					..	15.9		14.24		
Birth Rate for England and Wales					..	15.3		15.5		

D E A T H S

<u>1952</u>			<u>1953</u>		
Total	M	F	Total	M	F
276	139	137	342	177	165

					<u>1952</u>			<u>1953</u>		
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population					..	8.9		10.85		
Standardised Death Rate					..	8.6		10.52		
Death Rate for England and Wales					..	11.3		11.4		

Deaths of infants under one year of age

<u>1952</u>				<u>1953</u>		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Legitimate	12	9	3	9	5	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1	2	1	1

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

Legitimate	10	7	3	7	3	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1	2	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	26.8	25.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.1	21.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	40.0	83.3

Deaths from Cancer ... 53

ANALYSIS OF DEATHSDiseaseNumber of Deaths

Male Female Total

Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, other ..	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease ..	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	1	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	5	6	11
" " Lung, bronchus ..	5	2	7
" " breast ..	1	9	10
" " uterus ..	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	8	24
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	-	2	2
Diabetes ..	2	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	27	41
Coronary disease, angina ..	22	14	36
Hypertension with heart disease ..	3	1	4
Other heart disease ..	23	22	45
Other circulatory disease ..	10	10	20
Influenza ..	1	4	5
Pneumonia ..	12	14	26
Bronchitis ..	15	3	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	5	-	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	2	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ..	2	4	6
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	4	-	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	-	-	-
Congenital malformations ..	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19	26	45
Motor vehicle accidents ..	5	2	7
All other accidents ..	4	5	9
Suicide ..	1	-	1

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

<u>Disease</u>		<u>1952</u>		<u>1953</u>	
		<u>No. of Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Deaths</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Deaths</u>
Smallpox	..	-	-	-	-
Measles	..	108	-	354	-
Whooping Cough	..	1	-	5	-
Scarlet Fever	..	31	-	32	-
Pneumonia	..	8	12	28	26
Puerperal Pyrexia		3	-	2	-
Erysipelas	..	-	-	4	-
Diphtheria	..	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis		-	-	1	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis		10	-	3	2
Dysentery	..	12	-	9	-
Para-Typhoid	..	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1	-	-	-
Malaria	..	1	-	-	-
Typhoid	..	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	..	-	-	-	-
		<u>175</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>28</u>

T U B E R C U L O S I S

<u>Age</u> <u>Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	2	4	1	1	-	1	-	-
35	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
45	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
65	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

Hospital accommodation for the District is provided by the Royal Bucks and Tindal General Hospitals. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital.

These three hospitals are administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

Cases are admitted to the Stoke Mandeville Hospital or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, if bed space is unavailable. Similarly, infectious disease cases are admitted to infectious disease hospitals within the Oxford region when there is no accommodation locally.

Pathological Specimens

The majority of specimens for examination are submitted to the Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised whenever necessary.

Ambulance Services

The ambulance services in the area are the responsibility of the Bucks County Council. Five ambulances are stationed in the Borough of Aylesbury for the use of the town and surrounding district.

Maternity and Child Welfare

This service is controlled by the Bucks County Council. Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Aylesbury, Brill, Long Crendon, Waddesdon, Quainton, Cuddington, Haddenham, Wendover, Whitchurch and Worminghall.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer this service.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

OXFORD REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD No. 1 (Northants) Mass Radiography Unit

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL - SECOND SURVEY

26th - 31st May 1953

Held at St. John's Hospital
Stone, Nr. Aylesbury, Bucks

<u>Survey of Patients</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken ..	368	399	767
No. of large films taken ..	29	27	56
No. recalled for clinical examination	14	7	21
No. referred to chest physician ..	9	5	14

Results of cases referred to Chest Physician

Active pulmonary tuberculosis ..	6	2	8
5 of these cases were newly discovered and 4 had a positive sputum.			
Presumably inactive pulmonary tuberculosis but requiring observation ..	3	2	5
Consolidation of unknown cause ..	-	1	1
	9	5	14

Survey of Staff and Dependents

No. of miniature films taken ..	100	83	183
No. of large films taken ..	3	8	11
No. recalled for clinical examination	1	4	5
No. referred to dispensary ..	1	3	4

Results of cases referred to dispensary

Active pulmonary tuberculosis requiring sanatorium treatment ..	-	1	1
This case was newly discovered and did <u>not</u> have a positive sputum.			
Presumably inactive pulmonary tuberculosis but requiring clinic observation ..	1	1	2
Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis not requiring clinic observation ..	-	1	1
	1	3	4

Results of cases clinically examined by the Medical Director but not referred to dispensary

Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis ..	-	1	1
<u>Abnormalities diagnosed from large films</u> <u>not requiring clinical examination</u>			
Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis ..	1	-	1
<u>Abnormalities diagnosed from miniature</u> <u>films not requiring further investigation</u>			
Inactive primary lesions ..	-	1	1

/ Summary

Summary of Newly Discovered Cases of Significant
Tuberculosis found in the St. John's Survey.

<u>Group</u>	<u>No. examined</u>	<u>Active</u>	<u>Inactive</u>
Patients	767	5	3
Staff and Dependants	183	1	2
Total	950	6	5

HALTON COUNTY SCHOOL - FIRST SURVEY

8th September 1953

Held at Halton County
School, Aylesbury, Bucks

<u>Summary of Work</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	..	201	186	387
No. of large films taken	..	3	7	10
No. recalled for clinical examination	..	2	2	4
No. referred to dispensary	..	2	1	3
No. examined by M.M.R. for the first time		201	181	382
No. previously examined by M.M.R.	..	-	5	5

Results of cases referred to Dispensary

Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis requiring Domiciliary Treatment	..	1	1	2
Both these cases were newly discovered and neither had a positive sputum.				
Broncho-pneumonia	..	1	-	1
		2	1	3

Summary of Newly Discovered Cases of Significant
Tuberculosis found in the Halton School Survey

<u>Group</u>	<u>No. Examined</u>	<u>Active Cases</u>	<u>Inactive Cases</u>
Scholars	365	2	-
Staff	22	-	-
Total	387	2	-

WESTCOTT - SECOND SURVEY

14th - 16th September, 1953

Held at the Social Club RAE
RPD, Westcott, Aylesbury, Bu

Percentage Response:- RAE/RPD - 82 %
Schools - 88%

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken ..	674	242	916
No. of large films taken ..	19	7	26
No. recalled for clinical examination ..	10	4	14
No. referred to dispensary ..	7	4	11
No. examined by M.M.R. for the first time	267	136	403
No. previously examined by M.M.R.	407	106	513

Results of Cases referred to Dispensary

Active pulmonary tuberculosis requiring sanatorium treatment ..	1	2	3
These were all newly discovered cases, two had positive sputa, and none had been previously examined by M.M.R.			
Presumably inactive pulmonary tuberculosis but requiring clinic observation ..	3	-	3
Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis not requiring clinic observation ..	1	1	2
	5	3	8

Summary of Newly Discovered Cases of Significant Tuberculosis found in the Westcott Survey

<u>Group</u>	<u>No. Examined</u>	<u>Active</u>	<u>Inactive</u>
R.A.E./R.P.D.	606	1	1
Dorton Blind School	121	-	-
Other Schools	98	2	-
General Public	91	-	-
Total	916	3	1

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
43, Buckingham Street,
Aylesbury, Bucks.

July, 1954

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to report on the work of the Inspector's branch of the Department for the year 1953. As this will be the last annual report bearing my name I wish to record my thanks to the Members of the Council for their interest in the work of the Department and continued support. I also take the opportunity of emphasising my appreciation of the loyalty and support of the staff during my period of service as Chief Officer.

HOUSING

There was increased activity in connection with properties which were unfit for human habitation. Several Demolition and Closing Orders were made and a number of Undertakings not to relet until made fit were accepted by the Council.

In two instances the houses were made fit and the Undertakings accordingly cancelled.

With the easing of the situation in respect of building materials there was evidence of some increased activity by owners to provide improved sanitary conditions, and also effect general repairs. A considerable amount of this work called for consideration, technical advice and supervision by the Department. The high cost of building work, however, in relation to the income from rents continued to have a limiting effect on the general situation in respect of property repair.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Greater interest was shown on the part of owners in the Improvement Grant provisions of the Housing Act, 1949.

Grants in respect of several properties were approved, and a number of proposals were in the preliminary stage at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The majority of the houses in the village of Dorton were dependent on standpipes, the source of supply being a local spring. Systematic sampling revealed that the quality of the supply was unreliable. After discussing the various circumstances with the owners concerned arrangements were made for the properties to be connected to the Water Board's main.

/The joint.....

The joint scheme for supplying five cottages on The Common, Brill, was carried out as arranged, and a considerable number of other properties were provided with mains water as a result of Statutory and informal action.

SEWERAGE

Ickford and Worminghall

The construction of the disposal works was in progress at the year end, and the laying of the sewers in both parishes was rapidly nearing completion.

Quainton Scheme Stage I

The laying of one section of the sewers and the formation of an irrigation area on the site of the future disposal works was completed under the supervision of the Department's staff. This section of the work eliminated a long standing nuisance in the Station Road area.

Aston Clinton

The Council's Consulting Engineers submitted a scheme for enlarging the works to provide for the considerable increase in the daily flow.

The volume of sewage flowing to the works at Aston Clinton, Wendover, Whitchurch, Haddenham, Stone, Waddesdon and Long Crendon causes overloading and samples of the effluent taken by the Thames Conservancy Inspectors from several of the works mentioned have been found, on occasion, to fall below the accepted standard.

It is fair to say that the men in charge have maintained the works generally in a satisfactory condition.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Despite the continual shortage of labour, and the increase in the number of houses, the regular collection of house refuse was well maintained.

There was a noticeable increase in the volume of refuse brought to the disposal site, which seems to indicate that having a regular collection available householders make full use of the service.

The three Paxit collecting vehicles continue to give satisfactory service, and these machines, together with the ten-cubic-yard side loader, have, as a result of careful arrangement of the daily schedules, proved capable so far, but with difficulty at times, of dealing with the increased amount of work which it should be appreciated has now reached the limit for the present vehicles and manpower.

Disposal

Following a working demonstration at the disposal site at Hartwell the Council acquired a Chaseside Hi Lift loading shovel, complete with bulldozer attachment which commenced work in August.

It soon became apparent that with this machine effective control of the disposal site was possible to a much greater degree than hitherto. The general appearance of the site has been much improved, and at the end of the year a considerable area had been levelled in readiness for final covering.

CESSPOOL AND PAIL EMPTYING SERVICE

The latest addition to the Council's fleet, the Dennis 800 gallon Cesspool Emptier fitted with a diesel oil engine, proved its economy.

The fuel oil consumption records show that this vehicle can be operated at half the cost of a similar machine with an engine using petrol.

Full advantage of this economy is secured by the use of the machine on work which entails the greater mileage.

The closing of the disposal site for Cesspool sewage at Whitchurch, and the increasing difficulty in securing suitable sites in the near vicinity of the areas of work, has resulted in an increased mileage for several of the machines.

As an indication of the extent of the Pail emptying service a weekly collection of approximately 1,400 pails is undertaken in 32 Parishes. The value of this work as a contribution towards healthy environmental conditions where modern sanitation is lacking, is in my opinion inestimable.

It should be appreciated that workmen are becoming less willing to undertake this class of work despite additional monetary reward, and the service throughout the district has only been maintained by increasing the schedule of those workmen still willing to continue.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Routine inspections of domestic, business and farm premises have been made, and appropriate treatment carried out. Special attention was directed to the conditions at the Council's Refuse and Sewage Disposal Sites and periodic test baiting and treatment of the sewerage systems also undertaken.

EDUCATION

Once again three students from West Africa, visiting this country to study Local Government, spent some time in the Department. They were given instruction relating to the administrative and technical work, and accompanied members of the staff when on duty in many parts of the district. They were thus able to gain some knowledge of the extent of the various works and the area for which the Council is responsible.

STATISTICS

The following tables indicate to some extent the variety of the duties undertaken by members of the staff:-

New Buildings

Plans received	...	...	...	406
New houses erected by Private Enterprise				76
Houses converted or reconditioned	...			5

Civil Building Control

Number of licences issued for works relating to Public Health matters				6
Number of licences issued in other categories	...	...	...	14

Work Completed to Comply with Notices

Dangerous buildings dealt with	...	...		1
Satisfactory water supply provided		...		45
Repairs to water supply	...	...		7
New drainage systems and improvements to existing drainage systems	...	...		44
Drains cleared etc.	...	...	...	6
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	19
Sanitary accommodation provided	...	...		1
General repairs to premises	...	...		15
Floors repaired	...	...	...	13
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	6
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	6
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	26
Walls and windows repaired	...	...		24
Ditches cleansed	...	...	...	2
Pail closets converted to water closets		...		17
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	47
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...		49
Certificates in respect of Factories		...		2
Properties dealt with under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	10
Improvement Grant Applications approved		...		6

Visits and Inspections

New Buildings	...	...	...	648
Building Licensing	...	...	...	19
Dangerous Buildings	...	...	...	4
Ditches	...	...	...	9
Drain Tests	...	...	...	257
Drainage	...	...	...	425
Factories	...	...	...	12
Food Premises and Food Inspection	...	...	...	45
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	130
Infestation and Infectious Disease				11
Levelling	...	...	...	27
Milk Regulations	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	214
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	53
Nuisances	...	...	...	89
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	20
Public Health Act	...	...	...	168
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	...	...	...	87
Rodent Control	...	...	...	17
Sanitary Surveys	...	...	...	1
Sewage Works	...	...	...	161
Sewerage	...	...	...	214
Water Supply	...	...	...	103
Water Samples	...	...	...	23

Foodstuffs Condemned

6 tins Tinned Milk
 12 tins Marmalade
 359 lbs Meat
 10 tins Tinned Fruit
 2 stone Fish
 2 stone Cod Roes
 19 lbs Bacon
 2 tins Tinned Pork
 2 tins Tinned Ham
 10 tins Tinned Meat and Meat Products
 30 lbs Sausages
 3 cases Ice Cream

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No. of Registrations of Retailers of Milk	2
No. of Dealer's Licences issued - Tuberculin Tested	4
Pasteurised	4
No. of Supplementary Licences - Tuberculin Tested	5
Pasteurised	6
Sterilised	1
No. of Premises registered for Sale of Ice Cream	5
No. of Petroleum Licences issued	84

W A T E R S U P P L Y

PARISH	Total No. of Houses in Parish	Total No. of temporary dwellings (camp sites)	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied direct from public water main.	Population supplied from public water mains (computed at 3½ persons per house.
Ashendon	61	-	56	196
Aston Clinton	661	-	656	2,296
Aston Sandford	17	-	10	35
Bierton-with- Broughton	292	-	276	966
Boarstall	43	-	29	101
Brill	308	-	274	959
Buckland	167	-	154	539
Chearsley	89	-	77	269
Chilton	86	-	82	287
Creslow	6	-	5	17
Cuddington	149	-	141	493
Dinton-with- Ford & Upton	217	-	187	654
Dorton	35	-	28	98
Drayton Beauchamp	50	-	45	157
Fleet Marston	17	-	3	10
Grendon Underwood	109	-	105	367
Haddenham	580	21	473	1,655
Halton	123	-	123	430
Hardwick	82	7	81	283
Hartwell	31	-	16	56
Hulcott	24	-	8	28
Ickford	91	-	76	266
Kingsey	37	4	35	122
Kingswood	28	-	28	98
Long Crendon	429	-	376	1,316
Ludgershall	93	-	83	290
Oakley	157	-	130	455
Oving	112	-	103	360
Pitchcott	7	-	7	24
Quainton	310	-	268	938
Quarrendon	15	-	8	28
Shabbington	101	-	97	339
Stoke Mandeville	287	-	278	973
Carried Forward	4,814	32	4,318	15,105

WATER SUPPLY -- Continued

PARISH	Total No. of Houses in Parish.	Total No. of temporary dwellings (camp sites)	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied direct from public water main.	Population supplied from public water mains (computed at 3½ persons per house.
Brought Forward	4,814	32	4,318	15,105
Stone-with- Bishopstone	332	7	294	1,029
Waddesdon	500	14	447	1,564
Weedon	109	-	89	311
Wendover	1,447	-	1,188	4,158
Westcott	142	7	131	458
Weston Turville	532	-	500	1,750
Whitchurch	214	-	197	689
Lower Winchendon	53	-	2	7
Upper Winchendon	39	-	33	115
Woodham	13	-	12	42
Worminghall	105	22	95	332
Wotton Underwood	73	19	69	241
TOTALS	8,373	101	7,375	25,801

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. SHAW

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Building Surveyor

